IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method for automatically converting date and time information in a text message to a local date and time of a message recipient in a network of data processing systems, the method comprising the steps of:

sending a text message from a first location in a first time zone, said text message intended for a recipient located in a second time zone, said text message including a string of at least one of date information and time information;

identifying said second time zone; and

converting said string of at least one of date information and time information to a second string, said second string including said at least one of date information and time information formatted with at least one of a date format and a time format associated with said second time zone.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said first time zone is equal to said second time zone.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

inserting said second string in said text message; and

sending said text message to said recipient located in said second time zone.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the identifying step is performed with at least one Java call function.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the converting step is performed with at least one Java call function.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the identifying step and converting step are performed with an Application Program Interface.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said text message comprises an instant message.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said text message comprises an e-mail message.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the identifying step further comprises the steps of:

getting information associated with said second time zone, said information defining said second time zone and a locale associated with said second time zone.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the converting step further comprises the steps of:

getting first information associated with said first time zone;

receiving second information associated with said second time zone, said second information defining said second time zone and a locale associated with said second time zone;

extracting said at least one of date information and time information from said string;

formatting said at least one of date information and time information with said at least one of said date format and said time format associated with said second time zone; and

inserting said formatted said at least one of date information and time information into said second string.

11. (Original) A system for automatically converting date and time information in a text message to a local date and time of a message recipient in a network of data processing systems, comprising:

a first processing unit associated with a message originator;

a second processing unit associated with a message recipient; and

a third processing unit, said third processing unit coupled to said first processing unit and said second processing unit;

said first processing unit operable to send a text message from a first location in a first time zone, said text message intended for said second processing unit located in a second time zone, said text message including a string of at least one of date information and time information; and

said third processing unit operable to identify said second time zone, and convert said string of at least one of date information and time information to a second string, said second string including said at least one of date information and time information formatted with at least one of a date format and a time format associated with said second time zone.

12. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said first time zone is equal to said second time zone.

13. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said third processing unit is further operable to:

insert said second string in said text message; and

send said text message to said recipient located in said second time zone.

14. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said third processing unit comprises a messaging server.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said text message comprises an instant message.

16. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said text message comprises an e-mail message.

17. (Original) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for automatically converting date and time information in a text message to a local date and time of a message recipient in a network of data processing systems, comprising:

first instructions for sending a text message from a first location in a first time zone, said text message intended for a recipient located in a second time zone, said text message including a string of at least one of date information and time information;

second instructions for identifying said second time zone; and

third instructions for converting said string of at least one of date information and time information to a second string, said second string including said at least one of date information

and time information formatted with at least one of a date format and a time format associated with said second time zone.

18. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 17, wherein said first time zone is equal to said second time zone.

19. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 17, further comprising:
instructions for inserting said second string in said text message; and
instructions for sending said text message to said recipient located in said second time zone.

20. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 17, wherein the second instructions and third instructions are performed with a plurality of Java call functions.